of its origins and motivations posed one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. They agreed that it should be combated in a consistent, sustained and comprehensive manner without any double standards.

(d) The three countries do not have any specific trilateral agreement.

Attacks on Sikhs in U.K.

399. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the incidences of assaults in the UK following the explosions on 7th July, 2005 in tube rails and public bases at London, against the members of the Sikh community, in particular;

(b) if so, the details of the incidences obtained from the Government of UK till date; and

(c) the actions initiated, if any, for ensuring protection of persons and their religious places by the UK administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Following the 7th July 2005 terrorist bomb blasts in London, there have been reports of isolated incidents of minor attacks against Gurdwaras in South London, Kent and Leeds. No major damage has been reported.

(c) Government of India expressed deep shock at reports about attacks on the places of Sikh worship in the UK. It appealed to the British Government to take all necessary steps to apprehend the perpetrators of these attacks and protect the Sikh community. The British authorities have assured that they would work with community leaders to ensure safety and security of all communities.

Dilution in India's stand for Security Council Seat

400. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been **a** dilution of our stand for permanent membership in U.N. Security Council; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) India believes that the reform and restructuring of the UN Security Council is important and that by any objective criteria, India's case for permanent membership of the UN Security Council is credible and strong. The Government has been pursuing India's candidature for permanent membership of the Security Council in the UN General Assembly, meetings of the relevant Committees and takes up India's case in all its high-level bilateral interactions. India, Brazil, Germany and Japan-now being termed as the Group of Four (G4) countries - have introduced a Resolution on UN Security Council Reform on July 11,2005 in the UN General Assembly. The G-4 Resolution has been co-sponsored by 31 countries and has the support of a large number of other countries. In this framework, there is also steady accretion in support of India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council, Several countries-permanent members as well as others-have expressed support for India's candidature either in the UN or in the context of bilateral exchanges.

Authentication of Indo-Pak border on Siachen Glacier

401. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India had made a demand to Pakistan to authenticate the border on the Siachen Glacier to ensure that there are no complications after demilitarisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response received by the Government from Pakistan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) India's position on the Siachen issue is that authentication of the presently held positions has to be the first step before any redeployment of troops is considered. Pakistan claims that India has violated the Simla Agreement and must withdraw from the territory occupied illegally.